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H. R. 284.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

July 23, 1852.

Read twice, and referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

AN ACT

To grant the right of way to all rail and plank roads and Macadamized turnpikes passing through the public land belonging to the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-1 sentatives of the United States of America in Congress 2 assembled, That the right of way shall be and is hereby 3 granted to all rail and plank road or Macadamized turn-4 pike companies that are now or that may be chartered 5 within ten years hereafter, over and through any of the 6 public lands of the United States, over which any rail or 7 plank road or Macadamized turnpikes are or may be au-8 thorized by an act of the legislature of the respective 9 States in which public lands may be situated; and the 10 said company or companies are hereby authorized to sur-11 vey and mark through the said public lands, to be held by 12 them for the track of said road, one hundred feet in width: 13

Provided, That in case where deep excavation or heavy

embankment is required for the grade of such road, then at such places a greater width may be taken by such company, if necessary, not exceeding in the whole two hundred feet.

SECT. 2. And be it further enacted, That the said company or companies shall have the right to take from the public lands in the vicinity of said road or roads all such materials of earth, stone or wood as may be necessary or convenient from time to time, for the first construction of said road or roads, or any part thereof through said land.

7 SECT. 3. And be it further enacted, That there shall 1 be and is hereby granted to said company or companies, 2 all necessary sites for watering places, depots and work-3 shops along the line of said road or roads, so far as the 4 places convenient for the same may fall upon the public 5 lands: Provided, That no one depot or watering place 6 shall contain over one square acre, and that said sites shall 7 not be nearer to each other than ten miles along the line 8 or lines of said road or roads: Provided further, That the 9 said grants herein contained, as well of the use of the pub-10 lic lands, as of the materials for the construction of said 11 road or roads, shall cease and determine, unless the road or 12 roads be begun within ten years from and after the passage 13 of this act, and completed within fifteen years thereafter: 14

And provided moreover, That if any road, at any time 15 16 after its completion, be discontinued or abandoned by said company or companies, the grants hereby made shall cease 17 and determine, and said lands hereby granted revert back 18 19 to the general government: Provided further, That when 20 a location for either of said railroads or plank roads, ma-21 cadamized turnpikes or sites for depots on the line of such 22road or roads shall be selected, the proper officers of such 23 road or road shall transmit to the Commissioner of the 24 General Land Office a correct plat of the survey of said 25 road or roads, together with the survey of sites for depots 26 before such selection shall become operative: Provided 27 further, That none of the foregoing provisions of this act 28 shall apply to, or authorize any rights in any lands of the United States other than such as are held for private entry 29 and sale, and such as are unsurveyed and not held for pub-20 31 lic use by erection or improvements thereon.

1 SECT. 4. And be it further enacted, That the right of 2 way through the public lands of the United States lying in .3 Black Rock, in the county of Erie and State of New York. 4 be and the same is hereby granted to the Lockport and 5 Buffalo railroad company: Provided, That in the opinion of the President of the United States such grant be not 6 7 injurious to the public interest, and that the location shall be approved by the President as to the position and width 8

9 of the said railroad: And provided further, That if the 10 said railroad shall not be completed within two years, or 11 if at any time after its completion, the said railroad be discontinued or abandoned, the grant shall cease and determine.

Passed the House of Representatives, July 22, 1852.

Attest: P. BARRY HAYES, Chief Clerk.